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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: **EGUCHI, Shinichi, et al.**

Group Art Unit: **2621**

Serial No.: **10/728,906**

Examiner: **Not yet assigned**

Filed: **December 8, 2003**

P.T.O. Confirmation No.: **9292**

For: **BOUNDARY DETECTION METHOD BETWEEN AREAS  
HAVING DIFFERENT FEATURES IN IMAGE AREA**

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97(b)**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

June 17, 2004

Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. One copy of each of these documents is attached, together with a copy of a Search Report dated April 16, 2004 for the corresponding EPC application.

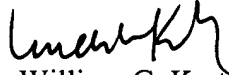
No fee or certification is required in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement, since it is being submitted prior to the issuance of a first official action on the merits or expiration of the three month period following the filing date or the entry of the national stage of the above-captioned application.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office can, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents cited in the attached Form PTO-1449 be made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 01-2340 for any fee which is deemed by the Patent and Trademark Office to be required to effect consideration of this statement.

Respectfully submitted,

ARMSTRONG, KRATZ, QUINTOS,  
HANSON & BROOKS, LLP



William G. Kratz, Jr.  
Attorney for Applicant  
Reg. No. 22,631

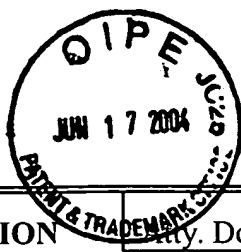
WGK/nrp  
Atty. Docket No. **031288**  
Suite 1000  
1725 K Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20006  
(202) 659-2930



**23850**

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Enclosures: EPO Search Report  
PTO-1449  
References (4)



<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION PTO-1449</b>	Patent Docket No. <b>031288</b>	Serial No. <b>10/728,906</b>
	Applicant(s): <b>EGUCHI, Shinichi, et al.</b>	
	Filing Date: <b>December 8, 2003</b>	Group Art Unit: <b>2621</b>

### U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial		Document No.	Name	Date	Class	Subclass	Filing Date (If appropriate)
_____	AA	5,768,403	Suzuki et al.	6/16/98			
_____	AB	5,577,131	Oddou	11/19/96			
_____	AC	5,331,442	Sorimachi	7/19/94			
_____	AD						
_____	AE						

### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		Document No.	Date	Country	Translation (Yes or No)
_____	AF	WO 94 03871	2/17/94	WIPO	Abstract
_____	AG				
_____	AH				
_____	AI				
_____	AJ				

### OTHER DOCUMENTS

_____	AK	
_____	AL	
Examiner		Date Considered